

FY 2003 Report of Accomplishments

Jefferson Co. Conservation District (July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003)



Natural Resource Improvements in 2003 – Summary

- **Water quality**, downstream of agricultural areas, has greatly improved in the six watersheds monitored since 1986. 2002 data from our water quality monitoring program indicates that, due to Best Management Practices implemented since 1986, fecal coliform bacteria were reduced by 90% in Chimacum Cr., 86% in E. Chimacum Cr., 85% in Tarboo Cr., 81% in Donovan Cr., 69% in Snow Cr., and 15% in Salmon Cr..
- **Fish and wildlife habitat** has improved through 4,500 ft of instream fish habitat improvements; stabilization of a major sediment source affecting ESA listed summer chum salmon spawning habitat; and 21 acres (9,108 streambank feet) of riparian buffer enrolled in CREP.



New Channel - E. Chimacum Cr.

Mission of the Jefferson Co. Conservation District

- The Jefferson Co. Conservation District promotes conservation and provides technical assistance to landowners, community groups and agencies to protect and improve the natural resources of Jefferson Co.

Water Quality Implementation Grant

Funds used to monitor water quality at 16 stations in Chimacum Cr. watershed, and provide results to watershed landowners.

- Removal of 1,000 cu. yds of sediment from Chimacum Cr. sediment basin, protecting 1.3 miles of salmon spawning habitat.
- Monitoring of intra-gravel dissolved oxygen to evaluate salmon spawning habitat in 2 watersheds.
- Monitoring of fish utilization before and after construction of fish habitat improvement projects to document improvements.
- Participation in WRIA 17 Watershed Planning efforts.
- Assisted Wild Olympic Salmon with summer chum salmon re-introduction in Chimacum Cr.
- Published a quarterly newsletter informing 600 recipients about CD water quality efforts

Basic Funding

Basic funding is used to pay for basic operating expenses such as rent, utilities and communication.

Puget Sound/Water Quality

Provided funds for project management of project to stabilize major sediment source impacting ESA listed summer chum salmon spawning habitat, in partnership with. North Olympic Salmon Coalition.

- Water quality monitoring of 8 stations in 4 watersheds.
- Planning for "Horses for Clean Water" workshop (implemented with funding from PSAT).
- Technical assistance to North Olympic Salmon Coalition and Jefferson Land Trust for their salmon recovery projects
- Assisted Jefferson Co. and Hood Canal Coordinating Council with salmon project prioritization.

Professional Engineering

Design of salmon habitat improvement project on 0.6 miles of E. Chimacum Cr., in partnership with North Olympic Salmon Coalition.

- Oversight and assistance to CD staff on several small BMP related projects.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

Completed signup of 3 new riparian planting projects in the past year totaling 21.1 acres (9,108 ft. of streambank).

- *Currently a total of 9 projects including 97.2 acres and 5.6 miles of riparian buffer in 4 watersheds.*

Dairy

Provided technical assistance to 5 dairy producers working towards certification of approved dairy nutrient management plans.

Jefferson County Funding

Coordinate a stakeholder based process to establish parameters for protection of fish and wildlife habitat on agricultural lands.

- *Monitor and inform public about timberland spraying operations, in cooperation with timber companies.*
- *Funding from Jefferson Co. also used to provide match and support for other grants.*

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Grants

Fish habitat improvements (canary grass removal and LWD installation) to 4,100 ft. of E. Chimacum Cr., including 1600' of new channel construction.

- *Planning and design completed for 3,500' of new channel construction in Salmon Cr, in cooperation with WDFW and North Olympic Salmon Coalition to be constructed summer, 2003.*

Community Collaboration & Coordination

Active participation in the "Chumsortium", an ad hoc group of community groups, government agencies and tribes working together on local salmon recovery efforts.

- *Active participation in the WRIA 17 Watershed planning process and Hood Canal Coordination Council Summer Chum ESU planning and project prioritization processes.*

Information & Education

- *Hosted a "Horses for Clean Water" workshop in coordination with Clallam Conservation District and funded by Puget Sound Action Team. Attended by 20 people in Jefferson Co. - 7 participants (35%) implemented one or more BMP's as a direct result of workshop.*

**Washington Conservation Districts assisting
land managers with their conservation choices**